

# RIVERWAYS

**August 27, 2004**

**News Notes #12**

***An electronic newsletter from the Massachusetts Riverways Program***

## **Collaboration for Water Resources Protection**

*Dear River Advocates,*

At the last MA Land Trust Conference, many good ideas about collaboration came out of Russ Cohen's workshop on partnerships between land trusts and water suppliers to safeguard lands with water supply value. We hope that the trend continues and serves to protect sustainable water supplies for humans while supporting instream uses and functions as well. The protection of key watershed lands enables critical groundwater recharge that supplies our rivers, streams, lakes and ponds with enough clean water to support native aquatic communities as well as cities and towns. Alliances between land trusts, watershed associations, stream teams and water suppliers are occurring in many watersheds. Here are a few examples:

- Perhaps the first that came to our attention was the **Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee (CRAAC)**, a legislatively created committee (late 1980s) composed of residents, town officials and water departments from Easton, Mansfield, Norton, Foxborough and Sharon. Under the leadership of Wayne Southworth of Easton, CRAAC worked to protect the aquifer as well as the Canoe River and to educate citizens about water conservation. They have held Canoe River Awareness Days, provided alternatives to extensive lawns and lawn watering, worked together on bylaws, conducted Shoreline Surveys, worked with officials to designate the area both a "sole source aquifer" and an ACEC. They recently are working with land trusts to purchase land to protect their aquifer and the river corridor.
- Working with Riverways, DEP, and others, the **First Herring Brook Watershed Initiative** in Scituate has also linked the need to ensure a sustainable water supply with ecological needs of the stream. Combining Shoreline Surveys with a SWAP grant, working with residents and town officials and a consulting firm, the group has identified tributaries to the municipal water supply worthy and needful of protection that had not been recognized as such by local and state water supply officials.

In the Nashua River watershed, one of four national sites selected by EPA to pilot a source water stewardship demonstration project, the **Nashua River Watershed Association**, the **N.E. Rural Water Association**, the **Trust for Public Land**, **UMass** and the **U.S. Forest Service** are implementing management actions including land conservation, forest management education and outreach, BMPs as well as regulatory approaches to protect water. The NRWA was one of 13 programs to receive the 2004 EPA Targeted Watershed Awards to implement a number of projects that, taken together, will protect valuable drinking water resources and surface water quality, in an area where groundwater and surface water are closely linked (see <http://www.nashuariverwatershed.org> and click on "Source Water Report").

- The **Mass. Dept. Of Conservation and Recreation** (DCR) also received a Targeted Watershed Program Grant for innovative work, including Low Impact Development (LID), in the Ipswich River watershed, partnering with the **Ipswich River Watershed Association**. If you have other stories that show alliances working to protect water supply and riverine and other hydric habitats, we would love to hear them.

The **Mass. Office of Commonwealth Development** (OCD) has released its "**Commonwealth Capital**" application forms which will guide state spending in support of sustainable development goals as they relate to state investments and grants (see article below). Pending budget approval, EOEA hopes to soon offer a new funding program for municipalities targeted to key parcels of land believed critical to protecting current and future water supplies (see **Resources and Grants** below for more details). The **EOEA Water Policy Task Force's** recommendations include both sustainable water supplies as well as habitat and stream protection. As a member of the task force and the natural resources/ habitat subcommittee, I found the process of including many different interests very stimulating and have been glad to read the comments many of you submitted.

Protecting land for water supply protection can and should also safeguard ecological resources, and by decreasing development reduces lawn irrigation and seasonal demand for water from our rivers and streams. To paraphrase land expert Bob Lemire, we should develop what ought to be developed and protect what needs to be protected. This concept is now part of Smart Growth and LID. Protecting land for water supply is both an easy political sell and an economical benefit for cities and towns. A recent TPL and AWWA study (2002) showed that for every 10% increase in forest cover in the source area, water supply treatment and chemical costs decrease approximately 20%. This complements studies showing the importance of vegetated buffers along rivers for enhancing water quality and quantity.

This edition of **NewsNotes** highlights articles on (1) possibilities for alliances between water suppliers and land trusts and (2) helping communities receive state funding by protecting local water resources. We also include the usual extensive **Resources and Grants** section (you may want to skim the **Grants** and **Calendar** portions first to make sure you don't miss any fast-approaching events and deadlines).



maintaining natural ecological functions being mentioned as additional benefits. Public water suppliers should consider forming partnerships with land trusts to protect land around drinking water sources. Most public water suppliers are unused to negotiating with property owners or undertaking the necessary steps (surveys, appraisals, title searches, etc.) to make an acquisition happen. Nor are many suppliers experienced at rallying public support in favor of increasing water rates or other local revenue to fund source protection, even though it is entirely appropriate for water rates to include the cost of acquiring land around public water supplies to help prevent contamination and provide natural filtration as a part of the full cost of providing clean drinking water to their customers. Land trusts can help build the case amongst the citizenry for the importance of funding land protection for water supply purposes, while assisting the water supplier in identifying and securing undeveloped open space with water supply protection value.

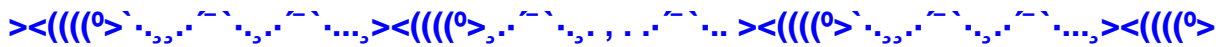
In the meantime, public water suppliers (through revenue from selling water, bond monies or both) potentially offer a funding "stream" of increased importance. Furthermore, the public support for land protection for public water supply protection (to, e.g., avoid the high treatment costs of cleaning up contaminated source water to drinkable quality) consistently scores as a high if not higher priority in most public opinion polls than other purposes such as wildlife habitat. In other words, it is usually clear to a broad segment of the public (including many people that would not characterize themselves as environmentalists) of the necessity of raising local revenue (through increased water rates, property tax increases to pay off bonds funding source protection, etc.) to protect their public water supply.

Protecting land for water supply protection purposes usually safeguards its other values (scenic, ecological, and, where appropriate, passive recreational values). So even if it is the public water supply protection argument that is the most effective in rallying public support and funding, other resource values, including riverine habitats, are likely to benefit as well. Last but not least, (and this is what makes this measure a water conservation as well as a source water protection BMP), protecting such land from development also helps on the water demand side as well, as such land would not be converted into uses with irrigated lawns placing yet more stress on what is already in many communities an overstretched water supply and depleted rivers and streams.

One important prerequisite to a successful partnership between a land trust and water supplier for source water land protection is that the parties agree beforehand as to how and to what extent the protected land will be used for water supply purposes once protected. There are anecdotal examples of water suppliers working with land trusts to save lands from development, only to have the land trust oppose development of a new water supply on the property afterward. That being said, it is appropriate for a land trust to seek to safeguard other conservation values of the property to help ensure the water supply use does not unduly harm these values. For example, a land trust may want to persuade a water supply partner to locate a new well or reservoir away from sensitive wetlands or waterways, even if that would result in a reduced yield from the new source.

For specific examples of and additional help on land conservation for water resource protection, the following people can be contacted, all of whom participated in a panel on this subject at the 2004 **Massachusetts Land Trust Conference** last March: Russ Cohen, Mass. Riverways Program, (617) 626-1543, [russ.cohen@state.ma.us](mailto:russ.cohen@state.ma.us); Bob O'Connor, Mass. Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, (617) 626-1170, [robert.oconnor@state.ma.us](mailto:robert.oconnor@state.ma.us); Mark Smith, The Nature Conservancy, (617) 542-1908, [msmith@tnc.org](mailto:msmith@tnc.org); Jennifer Palmiotto, Northeast Rural Water Association, (800) 556-3792 ext.325, [jpalmiotto@neruralwater.org](mailto:jpalmiotto@neruralwater.org); and Craig MacDonnell, Trust for Public Land (617) 367-6200. [craig.macdonnell@tpl.org](mailto:craig.macdonnell@tpl.org) (see, e.g., info about the **Worcester Watershed Land Protection Partnership**, [http://www.tpl.org/tier3\\_cd.cfm?content\\_item\\_id=14796&folder\\_id=260](http://www.tpl.org/tier3_cd.cfm?content_item_id=14796&folder_id=260)).

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## River and Water Resources Protection through “Commonwealth Capital”

Many **NewsNotes** readers have probably already heard about “Commonwealth Capital” (<http://www.mass.gov/ocd/comcap.html>), a new program from the **Mass. Office of Commonwealth Development (OCD)** that guides state investments toward projects that meet sustainable development goals. Through this program, municipalities applying for certain state grants and loans receive extra points for meeting a various sustainable development criteria, among which are three criteria for “Advancing Sound Water Policy”, which may be used to protect water quantity and quality in local rivers. Applications from municipalities having one or more of the following sound water policy BMPs in place will get extra points in the Commonwealth Capital scoring system:

- 1) Water Conservation Plan Consistent with the Commonwealth Water Conservation Standards ([http://www.mass.gov/envir/mwrc/pdf/Conservation\\_Standards.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/envir/mwrc/pdf/Conservation_Standards.pdf));
- 2) Implementation of (a) stormwater BMPs, (b) LID techniques, (c) other water resource measures; and
- 3) Integrated Water Resources Management Plan (IWRMP) (<http://www.mass.gov/dep/brp/mf/files/fpintro.htm>).

Each of the above items emphasized by the Commonwealth Capital program can be used to maintain or restore more natural hydrologic budgets within local sub-watersheds. Maintaining a natural hydrologic budget on the subwatershed scale assures that adequate water is available during each season to support thriving native communities of fish, invertebrates and



other aquatic species (i.e., what goes in ought to come out, and vice versa).

As your community plans for its water and wastewater treatment needs, the IWRMP can be a vehicle to develop subwatershed budgets that assess the degree of hydrologic stress in each sub-basin (see the technique outlined on p.23 of the Water Resource Commission's 2001 Stressed Basins in Massachusetts report ([http://www.mass.gov/envir/mwrc/pdf/Massachusetts\\_Stressed\\_Basins.PDF](http://www.mass.gov/envir/mwrc/pdf/Massachusetts_Stressed_Basins.PDF))). This type of analysis is not currently required as part of the IWRMP (also called the "Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan", which has guidance from DEP), but can be included as a quantitative method for assessing alternative approaches to water resource management through the reviews required for the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA).

Subbasins with a large net outflow can be targeted for projects that increase groundwater recharge, such as stormwater BMPs (in conjunction with NPDES Phase II permit requirements), on-site or small cluster wastewater treatment options, or direct aquifer recharge. Conversely, the sub-basin planning process can be used to plan reduced water withdrawals from hydrologically stressed basins through water conservation, reduction of ground water infiltration into sewage pipes, diversification of water sources, or water conservation standards and drought management plans that limit summer lawn irrigation. The sub-basin hydrologic analysis will also help towns assess the impact of each management option on sensitive resources and functions such as rare species, wetlands, vernal pools, cold water fisheries, flood control, and water filtration.

**What You Can Do:** Find out what water and wastewater planning processes are ongoing in your town and get involved! Commonwealth Capital applications can be reviewed on the Commonwealth Capital website as they are submitted (<http://www.mass.gov/ocd/comcap.html>), and will contain information about which processes are completed, ongoing, or incomplete. Towns can claim credits for stormwater BMPs and Low Impact Development (LID), so let your town officials know if you have completed or are working on any projects that include these techniques. In addition, watershed associations and other river advocates can assist their towns and water departments with water conservation campaigns, and public outreach, serving the dual goals of Commonwealth Capital and the NPDES Phase II permit requirements. Finally, public involvement with Integrated Water Resources Management planning is encouraged (and needed!) from the earliest scoping stages. Your input is crucial to make sure that your town protects and restores rivers, lakes and wetlands while earning its "Sound Water Policy" points on the Commonwealth Capital application. Contact Margaret Kearns at Riverways [(617) 626-1533; [Margaret.kearns@state.ma.us](mailto:Margaret.kearns@state.ma.us)] for further help on water resources planning and protection.



## GRANTS

A portion of the Commonwealth's annual capital bond spending cap for FY05 is expected to be allocated to a grants program that will provide **matching grants for protecting lands with water supply value**. The funds can be used in a number of ways: (1) Fee simple (full ownership); (2) Less than fee simple (e.g. conservation restriction); (3) A combination of fee simple and less than fee simple. Although only municipalities are eligible to receive funds under this grant program, cooperating land trusts may play an important role in negotiating with landowners and/or helping to raise the required 50% matching funds. Formal announcement of this grant, including eligibility, evaluation criteria, and the response process will be made by the posting of the RFR at the Commonwealth's procurement site (<http://www.comm-pass.com>). [These grants are expected to be covered by the new Commonwealth Capital criteria – see the above article for details.] If funds are awarded, the protected parcels will be open to the general public for appropriate outdoor/ recreational use while consistent with 310 CMR 22.00 and permanently protected open space under Article 97 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In addition to protecting current or future water supply, criteria for proposed acquisitions funded through this grant also includes enhancing environmental health by protecting wildlife habitat, improving forest management, and/or improving historic or archeological resource protection, and providing for appropriate public outdoor recreational uses.

**River Network** announced earlier this year the publication of **The River Advocate's Fundraising Guide**, accessible on the organization's website at <http://www.rivernetwork.org/fundraisingguide>. This new publication is an edited compendium of the quarterly River Network Fundraising Alerts (see, e.g., ([http://www.rivernetwork.org/library/fra2004\\_v11n2.htm](http://www.rivernetwork.org/library/fra2004_v11n2.htm)), with new material added in many cases. It is the work of many individuals who have freely contributed their ideas and energy to helping river and watershed organizations learn about fundraising. Thanks, River Network!

The **Orchard Foundation** (<http://www.orchardfoundation.org>) is a private charitable foundation, founded in 1990, that makes grants to non-profit organizations concerned with the environment and children, youth and families in New York and New England. Environmental grants made by the foundation include the topics of biodiversity, fresh and coastal waters, forests, toxic substances and pollution prevention. Advocacy, principally legal, governmental agencies, and administrative process participation advocacy projects are strongly encouraged and given preference. The Orchard Foundation favors organizations with a demonstrated competency in specific skills such as litigation, technology, scientific advocacy, or coalition building. The foundation favors organizations with local and national ties, either through networks, chapters or other affiliations. Finally, the foundation favors organizations with a demonstrated strong base of citizen and activist support. The foundation does **not** fund projects involving general citizen organizing and public awareness-building, environmental education (for adults or children), growth management and sprawl, energy (except for dams), species-specific or other scientific research, and land acquisition. The next deadline for concept letters is (postmarked

by) **September 1**. For more info (e-mail contact is preferred), contact: Executive Director, Orchard Foundation, P.O. Box 2587, So. Portland, ME 04116, (207) 799-0686, [orchard@maine.rr.com](mailto:orchard@maine.rr.com).

Founded in 1981, the **Town Creek Foundation** (<http://www.towncreekfdn.org>) seeks a healthy environment, an informed society, and a peaceful world. The Foundation is committed to achieving its mission through public education, citizen action, and advocacy. The Foundation supports programs that engage citizens in challenging the unsustainable use of natural resources and in protecting biological diversity. Strategies supported are grassroots activism, monitoring the enforcement of environmental laws, public policy advocacy, collaborative opportunities, media outreach, and model or demonstration projects fostering sustainable policies and practices. A letter of inquiry (up to two pages) may be submitted before a full proposal is prepared. It may be submitted by fax or email and the foundation will respond as soon as possible as to whether a full proposal will be considered. The next grant application **deadline is September 15, 2004**. For more info, contact Christine B. Shelton, Executive Director, Town Creek Foundation, 121 N. West Street, Easton, Maryland 21601, (410) 763-8171, (410) 763-8172 (fax) or [info@towncreekfdn.org](mailto:info@towncreekfdn.org).

The **Conservation Alliance** (<http://www.conservationalliance.org>) is a non-profit organization of outdoor businesses whose collective annual membership dues support grassroots citizen-action groups and their efforts to protect wild and natural areas. One hundred percent of its member companies' dues go directly to diverse, local community groups across the nation - groups like Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, Alliance for the Wild Rockies, The Greater Yellowstone Coalition, the South Yuba River Citizens' League, RESTORE: The North Woods and the Sinkyone Wilderness Council (a Native American-owned/operated wilderness park). For these groups, who seek to protect the last great wild lands and waterways from resource extraction and commercial development, the Alliance's grants are substantial in size (about \$35,000 each), and have often made the difference between success and defeat. Since its inception in 1989, The Conservation Alliance has contributed \$4,140,059 to grassroots environmental groups across the nation; the groups funded have saved over 34 million acres of wild lands and 14 dams have been either prevented or removed-all through grassroots community efforts. For more info about how to obtain a grant, contact Lisa Pike, Director of Environmental Programs, Patagonia, at [lisa\\_pike@patagonia.com](mailto:lisa_pike@patagonia.com).

The **Environmental Support Center's** LEAP (Leadership and Enhanced Assistance Program) provides assistance over a two-year period to grassroots environmental groups to build organizational capacity and make a "leap" forward. ESC provides workshop training, support and up to \$10,000 in funding to help groups establish and meet capacity building goals, learn from each other and build understanding among peer groups. Learn more about the program, its criteria and how it might assist your organization at <http://www.envsc.org> or by calling Caroline Brown, LEAP Manager, at (202) 331-9700. The **2004 deadline is Friday, Sept. 10**.



The **New England Grassroots Environment Fund** (NEGEF, <http://www.grassrootsfund.org>) is a small grants program designed to foster and give voice to grassroots environmental initiatives in the six New England states. NEGEF was created to assist groups who are not being reached by traditional funders. It provides grants of up to \$2,500 to fuel civic engagement, local activism, and social change. NEGEF funds community involvement in projects that address a wide range of environmental issues including: agriculture, air quality, alternative energy, aquifer protection, biotechnology, community gardens, environmental justice, energy conservation, forestry, global warming, land trusts, marine environment, public health, sprawl, sustainable communities, toxics and hazardous waste, trails, water quality, watershed management, wetlands, wildlife, and youth-organized environmental work. The Fund has three funding cycles per year. Proposals should be postmarked by January 15th for a March decision, May 1st for a June decision or **September 15th** for a November decision. Regardless of whether or not you apply for NEGEF funding, you may want to take a look at NEGEF's highly-informative newsletter to see what other groups are doing ([http://www.grassrootsfund.org/current\\_newsletter.html](http://www.grassrootsfund.org/current_newsletter.html)). For more information, contact Linn Perkins Syz at (802) 223-4622 or [syz@grassrootsfund.org](mailto:syz@grassrootsfund.org).

**NOAA Community-based Restoration Program (CRP) Direct Grants** provide funding to implement individual, grass-roots restoration projects to restore anadromous fish habitat. Projects funded through the CRP are expected to have strong on-the-ground habitat restoration components that provide educational and social benefits for people and the communities in addition to long-term ecological habitat improvements. A more detailed description of this funding program is posted at [http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects\\_programs/crp/partners\\_funding/CRPprojects\\_ffo04.html](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects_programs/crp/partners_funding/CRPprojects_ffo04.html). Applications for the FY05 funding round are due **September 15, 2004**. Details about the application process can be read on-line at [http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects\\_programs/crp/partners\\_funding/submitproposal.html](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects_programs/crp/partners_funding/submitproposal.html) Applications can now be submitted electronically through <http://www.grants.gov>.

The **Sudbury Foundation's Environmental Program** focuses on two geographic regions in the Northeast that face significant challenges to ecological integrity and community sustainability: the Northern Forest of New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine, and the fisheries and coastal communities of the Gulf of Maine. The Program supports projects that conserve and restore the productive capacity of these two ecosystems while helping to build a better future for the people who depend on them. Because solutions developed with local input are often the most effective and enduring, the Foundation favors community-based efforts to conserve resources and enhance quality of life. The next deadline for proposals is (postmarked by) **October 1**. Applicants are encouraged to discuss their needs with Foundation staff prior to submitting a full proposal. Telephone inquiries and concept papers are welcome. While the Foundation does not rule out requests for any particular type of assistance, it generally does not provide ongoing operating support, offset deficits, contribute to general appeals, fund efforts understood to be the responsibility of government or support

religious activities. In the grant review process, the Trustees view collaboration among agencies with similar missions favorably and consider an applicant's ability to secure alternate project financing. The Foundation welcomes the opportunity to join with other funders in underwriting grant endeavors. Multi-year grant requests are accepted. For more information, go on-line to <http://www.sudburyfoundation.org/environmental.html>, call the Foundation at (978) 443-0849 or e-mail [contact@sudburyfoundation.org](mailto:contact@sudburyfoundation.org).

**eBay**, the online auction company, now allows its 69 million individual and corporate customers to assign all or part of their online proceeds to nonprofit organizations (**River Network**, e.g.). Regular buyers or sellers on eBay with a user name and password can register with **MissionFish**, eBay's charity solution provider, at <http://www.missionfish.org>. Once registered with MissionFish, you can search for items currently on auction that are scheduled to benefit River Network and/or other nonprofits and bid on these items yourself. You can also list items to sell designating River Network or other nonprofit(s) to receive anywhere from 10% to 100% of the proceeds from each item auctioned. eBay may be the largest online charitable retailer, but it is not the only one. If you shop on-line, you can also designate River Network or other eligible nonprofit as a recipient of up to 35% of the cost of items purchased at <http://www.buyforcharity.com> and up to 15% of the cost of items purchased at <http://www.greatergood.com>. (For raising funds from discarded items, see <http://www.dumpandrun.org>; to accept donated items or services see <http://www.thebostonchannel.com/commonwealth5/index.html>).

**Geeks for Givers**, a nonprofit organization based in Chester, CT "rescues" high-end corporate computers destined for landfills, refurbishes them, and resells them to nonprofits at a VERY low cost. Once rescued, Geeks wipes out hard drives and installs fully licensed Microsoft operating systems, firewalls, Winzip and BasicFunder (a simple nonprofit donor/membership database). By the time groups get their "new" computers, all they have to do is load their software. (Or if you are a techno plebe like me, give them your software and they'll load it for you.) Geeks also services groups in Massachusetts and Rhode Island on a limited basis. Costs per computer are determined according to 1) your organization's operating budget and 2) the type of system your group wants, i.e., a Windows 98 system (\$60-\$80), a Windows 2000 system (\$80-\$100), or a laptop (\$110-\$130).

For more information, visit the Geeks for Givers website (<http://www.geeksforgivers.org> ). You can contact them directly at (860) 995-5330 or at [info@geeksforgivers.org](mailto:info@geeksforgivers.org).

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## ON-LINE RESOURCES

The **EPA's Office of Water** has just released a new version of **EnviroMapper for Water**

(<http://www.epa.gov/waters/enviromapper>). EnviroMapper for Water provides a Web-based mapping connection to a wealth of water data. You can use it to view and map data, such as the uses assigned to local waters by your state (fishing, swimming, etc), waters that are impaired and do not support their assigned uses, the reasons why waters are impaired, water quality monitoring information, closures of swimming beaches, and the location of dischargers. Maps can be viewed at the national, regional, state or local levels. This latest release of EnviroMapper for Water (Version 3.0) features several new layers of water data including EPA's national water quality database STORET, National Estuary Program study areas, and the location of nonpoint source projects. Other enhancements make it easier to locate and view these data, and instructions are included describing how to incorporate the resulting map into your own Web page. For more information, contact Tommy Dewald at [dewald.tommy@epa.gov](mailto:tommy@epa.gov) or (202) 566-1178.

The most recent edition of the **EPA's Nonpoint Source News-Notes** (Issue #73) (<http://www.epa.gov/owow/info/NewsNotes/issue73/73issue.pdf>) contains a number of useful resources, most notably a well-written and useful article about strategies for **removing bacteria from runoff** <http://www.epa.gov/owow/info/NewsNotes/issue73/73issue.pdf#page=17>. The EPA also recently established a **Watershed and Water Quality Modeling Technical Support Center** to provide assistance to EPA regions, state, and local governments, and their contractors in the implementation of the Clean Water Act. The Center is committed to providing access to technically defensible tools and approaches that can be used in the development of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL), waste load allocations, and watershed protection plans. More info is available on-line at <http://www.epa.gov/owow/info/NewsNotes/issue73/73issue.pdf#page=2>.

The **Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife** (<http://www.masswildlife.org>) invite you to subscribe to **MassWildlife News**, a free electronic monthly newsletter updating you on research, events, new laws and other agency activities. All you need to do to subscribe is to send an e-mail to: [Join-MassWildlife.news@listserv.state.ma.us](mailto:Join-MassWildlife.news@listserv.state.ma.us). Here's an excerpt from the June 2004 newsletter (#7):

**Preventing Aquatic Hitch Hikers** - Boaters launching their craft into Massachusetts waterways should check to be sure they aren't giving a free ride to invasive aquatic plants or animals. Aquatic invasives can easily be transported between water bodies by boats, motors, trailers, fishing equipment, bait buckets, diving gear and other aquatic recreational equipment. These hitchhikers can wreak havoc in lakes and ponds by choking waterways through explosive growth, fouling intake and discharge structures, lowering lakefront property values, and possibly harming native fish, plants and insects. Once they are established in a water body, it is nearly impossible to eradicate these invasive organisms. Boaters and other water users can help prevent the spread of exotic weeds and other pests by 1) hand-removing all materials (plant or animal) from equipment and

disposing it far away from the water. Special attention should be paid to the bunks or rollers where the boat is seated on the trailer as well as the trailer hitch. 2) Wash and dry all equipment before reuse. Hose off the boat, diving gear and trailer. 3) Drain and flush the engine cooling system and live wells of boats, bait buckets and the buoyancy control device from diving equipment that's been in contact with a water body. 4) Join the Weed Watchers! Spread the word and learn to identify invasive organisms through training offered by the Dept. of Conservation and Recreation's Lakes and Ponds Program. Receive a Guide to Aquatic Invasive Species and other helpful publications. The Lakes and Ponds program is looking for anglers, lake and pond association members and other water users to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasives. For information on the Weed Watchers Program or for fact sheets, posters and a sign suitable for posting at boat ramps, call Michelle Robinson at (617) 626-1382 or visit the DCR website at [www.mass.gov/dem/programs/lakepond/lakepond](http://www.mass.gov/dem/programs/lakepond/lakepond).

**MassGIS** has created a new standard map product geared more toward the general public as opposed to the professional community. MassGIS is now producing color orthophoto maps with an extent of a town or an area surrounding a specified geographic point. In addition to the orthophoto base, other layers on the map include: streets with annotation, town boundaries with annotation, and geographic place names from the USGS. At a cost of \$25 (\$5 for additional copies of the same map), these would make a great gift for map enthusiasts or new residents. To order, please visit: <http://www.state.ma.us/mgis/ordercolororthomap.htm>.

### **Non-government On-line Resources**

#### **Cats Indoors! The Campaign for Safer Birds and Cats**

<http://www.abcbirds.org/cats>

An initiative of the **American Bird Conservancy** (ABC), Cats Indoors! was initiated by ABC to end the unnecessary suffering and death of birds and other wildlife caused by free-roaming domestic cats. Cats Indoors! seeks to educate cat owners, decision makers and the general public that free-roaming cats pose a significant risk to birds and other wildlife, suffer themselves, and pose a threat to human health. Cats Indoors! encourages cat owners to keep their cats indoors and advocates laws, regulations, and policies to protect cats and birds, including the humane removal of free-roaming cats from areas important to wildlife. The campaign promotes grassroots efforts to address the issue at state and local levels. A new feature of the Cats Indoors! Website is a series of nine downloadable color fact sheets on various aspects of and solutions to the cat/wild bird predation problem. For more info, contact Cats Indoors! Director Linda Winter at (202) 452-1535 x201 or [lwinter@abcbirds.org](mailto:lwinter@abcbirds.org).

#### **Center for Watershed Protection (CWP)'s Urban Subwatershed Restoration Manual Series**

[http://www.cwp.org/USRM\\_verify.htm](http://www.cwp.org/USRM_verify.htm)

This series of 11 manuals is being written by CWP to organize the enormous amount of



information needed to restore small urban watersheds into a format that can easily be accessed by watershed groups, municipal staff, environmental consultants and other users. Each manual is packed with color photographs. The manuals produced so far are: **Manual #8: Pollution Source Control Practices; Manual #1: An Integrated Framework to Restore Small Urban Watersheds, Manual #10: Unified Stream Assessment: A User's Manual;** and **Manual #11: Unified Subwatershed and Site Reconnaissance: A User's Manual.** Hard copies of these documents can be purchased (for \$30 apiece or \$100 for all four) or (until **September 30<sup>th</sup>**) downloaded for free from this web page.

### **CitizenSpeak**

<http://www.citizenspeak.org>

CitizenSpeak is a free, web-based advocacy service that allows grassroots organizations to incorporate e-mail campaigns into their communications strategies. With CitizenSpeak, organizations enable their members to e-mail targeted decision-makers one-on-one messages with a single click. CitizenSpeak strengthens organizations' lobbying efforts by putting immediate pressure on decision-makers and by providing reports on participation. CitizenSpeak offers two packages: CitizenSpeak Free, and CitizenSpeak Advanced, which enables groups to learn more about your supporters with downloadable reports that detail participant contact info and personal statements.

Grow your membership and fundraise with customizable 'Thank You' pages that invite participants to donate or join. For a limited time, CitizenSpeak Advanced is available for FREE. For more info, send an e-mail to [info@citizenspeak.org](mailto:info@citizenspeak.org) or call (401) 338-5445.

### **Ecological Cities Project**

<http://www.umass.edu/ecologicalcities>

Founded in 1999 by UMASS professor Dr. Rutherford H. Platt, the Ecological Cities Project is a quasi-independent program of research and outreach affiliated with the Department of Geosciences and the Center for Public Policy and Administration at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. The program seeks to promote sharing of knowledge and experience among disciplines, sectors, and urban regions regarding new approaches to urban greenspace creation and management. This web page contains an on-line version of Dr. Platt's article appearing in the June 2004 issue of ***Environment*** magazine entitled *Toward Ecological Cities: Adapting to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Metropolis*.

### **Instream Flow Council (IFC)**

<http://www.instreamflowcouncil.org>

The IFC is an organization representing the interests of state fish and wildlife management agencies in the United States and provincial and territorial agencies in Canada dedicated to improving the effectiveness of their instream flow programs. IFC membership is open to any individual or institution that shares its goals and objectives and desires to help state, provincial and territorial fish and wildlife management agencies effectively administer their respective instream flow programs. Links from the IFC website (<http://www.atlasbooks.com/marktplc/00710>).



[htm](#)) take you to the ordering page for the newly-published revised version of the IFC's book, entitled ***Instream Flows for Riverine Resource Stewardship***, which provides a detailed description of riverine ecosystem management concepts and strategies for aquatic resource managers and others involved in the determination of instream flow needs and water management. This revised edition is fully illustrated and cites over 600 references to provide a comprehensive treatment of riverine ecology, the role of the public, and legal aspects of river management. The book contains 46 policy statements related to program development and study design and includes descriptions and critical opinions of 34 instream flow methods.

### **Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition (MLTC)**

<http://www.massland.org>

The MLTC's purposes are: to increase the effectiveness of land trusts and conservation organizations in Massachusetts in working with the legislature and governmental agencies on issues of direct interest to the conservation movement; to promote high ethical and professional standards as outlined in the Land Trust Alliance's Statement of Standards and Practices for Land Trusts; to assist The Trustees of Reservations in organizing and presenting the annual Massachusetts Land Trust Conference; and to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, skills, and information within the conservation movement. The MLTC recently upgraded their web page content to include a number of recent news stories regarding land conservation, information on the eight new Land Protection Resource Center satellite locations, and information on the new Religious Lands Conservancy Project, a joint venture between the MLTC and the Crystal Spring Center for Earth Learning in Plainville, MA.

### **NewsLink**

<http://newslink.org>

Looking for a single source of media contact info for your organization's next press release, news story, or to promote an upcoming event? Newslink is a comprehensive listing of media (daily and weekly newspapers, radio and TV stations, some magazines), organized by state and listed alphabetically by city/town of publication/broadcast. Newslink provides links to web pages for most media outlets (some smaller periodicals are left out).

### **Private Landowner Network (PLN)**

<http://www.privatelandownernetwork.org/AboutPLN.asp>

A collaborative project of the **Resources First Foundation** and the **New England Forestry Foundation**, PLN is an Internet-based resource to facilitate and encourage private landowner conservation endeavors. PLN has been designed to aggregate service providers and information to assist and facilitate voluntary private land conservation initiatives. It is designed to provide a voluntary information and communication corridor featuring a suite of conservation tools and a portfolio of readily accessible and available programs for the benefit of the target audience of private landowners. PLN provides an effective link to public conservation agencies through featured partnership programs, along with a national referral network of preferred service providers such as estate planners, appraisers, tax attorneys.

## **VolunteerMatch (VM)**

<http://www.volunteermatch.org>

VM is a nonprofit organization with a mission to help everyone find a great place to volunteer, and offers a variety of online services to support a community of nonprofit, volunteer and business leaders committed to civic engagement. Interested volunteers can enter their ZIP code on VM's home page to quickly find local volunteer opportunities posted by nonprofit organizations throughout the United States. VM offers nonprofit groups a free, innovative volunteer recruitment tool, and increased local and national exposure through VM's network and partnerships. Together, with thousands of local nonprofits, VolunteerMatch has become the web's largest database of volunteer opportunities, connecting hundreds of thousands of volunteers with nonprofits nationwide.

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## **CALENDAR**

The **Center for Watershed Protection** (<http://www.cwp.org>) will be hosting its **Watershed Restoration Institute 2004** on Bainbridge Island, Washington from **September 12-17**. Learn to use watershed mapping more effectively, conduct riparian and upland assessments, design stormwater retrofits, and identify restoration opportunities. Get help identifying and securing funding for your watershed restoration projects from the funders themselves during the Funders Forum. Visit Pipers Creek, site of an extensive stream restoration project, and Sea Streets, an innovative stormwater drainage demonstration project. Six hours of aftercare support are available to every Institute attendee. You can register on-line at CWP's website, or for more information, contact Jennifer Zielinski at the CWP at (410) 461-8323 or [jaz@cwp.org](mailto:jaz@cwp.org).

The **Rails-to-Trails Conservancy** (RTC) is hosting the last two workshops in its 2004 Greenways and Trails Seminar series. The first is entitled "**Maintaining Your Trail for Optimal Use**" on **Wednesday, September 15, 2004** from 10:30AM to 12:30PM at TTOR's Doyle Conservation Center in Leominster (see [http://www.thetrustees.org/pages/3946\\_directions.cfm](http://www.thetrustees.org/pages/3946_directions.cfm)). This workshop will review a 2004 survey of maintenance programs, including case studies, and how to involve volunteers in your maintenance program. Presenters will be the RTC's Betsy Goodrich and Craig Della Penna. Betsy and Craig will also be presenting a workshop entitled "**Acquiring Rail Corridors**" on **Wednesday, November 17** from 10:30AM to 12:30PM. Securing land for trails can be a formidable task, because of the number of landowners owning parcels along a linear corridor and the various ways in which developers must negotiate use of these parcels. This workshop will review the basic methods of acquiring these corridors, including "railbanking", easements and others. To pre-register (strongly suggested, at least a week in advance) or for more info: (508) 755-3300, [rtcnewengland@railtrails.org](mailto:rtcnewengland@railtrails.org), [http://www.railtrails.org/field/new\\_england/default.asp](http://www.railtrails.org/field/new_england/default.asp).

A **regional watershed conference** hosted by UMASS/Amherst will take place on **Friday, September 17th, 2004** from 8AM to 5PM. The conference website can be viewed at <http://madras.fnr.umass.edu/conference04>. This year's topics include: Watershed Restoration, Instream Habitat Management, Managing Agricultural Contamination, Bioremediation of Contaminated Soils, Water Conservation and Consumptive Use, Climate change impacts on watersheds, Trading in Pollutants, Water treatment issues, managing combined sewer overflows, information management for coastal systems, landscape ecological issues, GIS in water resource planning, conservation policy, public participation and water organization. The registration fee of \$75 includes lunch and refreshments. For more info, contact Prof. Tim Randhir at (413) 545-3969.

**“After the Storm”**, a half-hour television special about watersheds and stormwater runoff co-produced by the EPA and The Weather Channel (TWC), is next scheduled for airing on TWC on **Saturday, September 18, 2004** at 8:00PM and 11:00PM EST. “After the Storm” explores how polluted runoff threatens the nation’s waters. For more information, go on-line to <http://www.epa.gov/owow/info/NewsNotes/issue73/73issue.pdf>.

The USDA **Natural Resources Conservation Service** (NRCS) in Massachusetts is **seeking local volunteers** to collect data for area streams and water bodies this fall as part of **World Water Monitoring Day**. Volunteers will serve on NRCS’s Earth Team, the agency’s on-going volunteer program. **America’s Clean Water Foundation** (<http://www.acwf.org/>) began World Water Monitoring Day in 2002 to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the United States’ Clean Water Act. World Water Monitoring Day serves as a global educational platform to help the public understand how the actions of individuals in a watershed can impact many others. NRCS will provide Earth Team volunteers with water monitoring kits and instructions for testing temperature, turbidity, pH, and dissolved oxygen levels of water. These volunteers will enter the information online through the World Water Monitoring Day website. The monitoring period begins on **September 18, 2004** and ends **October 18, 2004**. If you would like more information on World Water Monitoring Day please visit [www.worldwatermonitoringday.org](http://www.worldwatermonitoringday.org). To participate in World Water Monitoring Day as an Earth Team volunteer apply online at [www.volunteer.gov/gov](http://www.volunteer.gov/gov) (click on the “MA” box on the national map) or contact Rachael Phillips at (508) 771-6476. Volunteers must be at least 14 years old. In 2003, over 5,200 sites were registered with 433 sites registered outside the United States. NRCS had two Massachusetts Earth Team volunteers monitoring several sites last year, and the agency hopes to have more this year.

The Mass. Highway Department (MHD) is hosting the **Moving Together 2004** conference which will take place on **Wednesday, October 20, 2004** at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Worcester. Join people from across the Commonwealth working to improve bicycling and walking conditions locally, regionally, and statewide. Participate in workshops on current issues and initiatives. Discuss shared experiences and strategies. Enjoy an exciting array of exhibits! The very affordable \$30 registration fee includes continental breakfast, lunch, and materials. Space is limited to 200 persons only, so please register early. For registration information, contact Chris

Ahmadjian at (413) 545-2604, or register on-line at [http://www.ecs.umass.edu/baystate\\_roads/form\\_moving\\_together.html](http://www.ecs.umass.edu/baystate_roads/form_moving_together.html).

UMASS/Amherst is hosting the **Annual Conference on Soils, Sediments and Water** from **October 18-21, 2004**. This preeminent national conference attracts 700-800 attendees annually, including a wide variety of representation from state and federal agencies, the military, a number of industries including railroad, petroleum, transportation, and utilities, the environmental engineering and consulting community, and academia. This year's conference theme, **Expediting and Economizing Cleanups**, will be supported by a strong and diverse technical program in concert with a variety of educational opportunities available to attendees. Live equipment demonstrations will augment the exhibition section which brings real-world application to the technical theory and case studies which will be presented in the platform sessions. Focused workshops will provide attendees with the type of practical application information which will impact their job performance immediately. The conference promises to be an exciting opportunity for all those concerned with the challenge of developing creative, cost-effective assessments and solutions that can withstand the demands of regulatory requirements. For information, contact Denise Leonard at (413) 545-1239, [info@UMassSoils.com](mailto:info@UMassSoils.com) or go on-line to <http://www.umasssoils.com>.

The second annual **Massachusetts Water Resources Research Center Conference, Water Resources in the Northeast: Emerging Issues**, will be held **Friday, October 22, 2004** at the Lincoln Campus Center, UMASS/Amherst. The Conference will feature four themes in concurrent sessions throughout the day, focusing on both science and policy issues: Dam Removal - Science and Policy Research Needs; Fate and Transport of Pollutants - Natural Organic Matter, Metals, and Nutrients; Long-term Monitoring of Watersheds and Influences of Climate Change; and Citizen-based Initiatives for Watershed Protection. The conference serves as a forum for university researchers, local, state, and federal agency staff, industry, and non-profit organizations to share and gain new information on water-related research and emerging issues. The conference registration fee is \$95 and includes lunch. Space is limited so early registration is recommended. For more information and to register, visit the MA Water Resources Research Center website at <http://www.umass.edu/tei/wrrc/WRRC2004/Conference2004> or contact Marie-Françoise Walk at (413)545-2842 or [wrrc@tei.umass.edu](mailto:wrrc@tei.umass.edu). [N.B.: Riverways is presenting at both of these conferences.]

Tufts University and Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB) are co-hosting a **Stream Restoration Workshop** from **October 26 – 29, 2004** at the Tufts campus in Medford/Somerville. The workshop includes 2 days in the classroom and 2 days of hands-on fieldwork on nearby streams and will teach participants to accurately diagnose degraded river systems and prescribe appropriate restoration alternatives through the development of a basic knowledge and understanding of the principles and processes governing stream morphology. The workshop provides a solid foundation of knowledge in the science of applied fluvial geomorphology that practitioners can build upon as they seek to better understand natural-



channel stability and the variables determining river form. The workshop also includes a **free panel discussion** on **Tuesday, October 26** from 8:00AM to 10:30AM entitled **Rivers and Streams: Current Status and Future Initiatives**, featuring DEP Commissioner Bob Golledge. PLEASE NOTE that, while the Panel Discussion on Oct. 26 is free and open to all who are interested, enrollment in the entire four-day seminar will be limited to the first 40 applicants. For more information, call Lisa Cummings at VHB, (617) 924-1770 x1588 (9:00AM-4:00PM, Mon.-Fri.), or go to [http://www.vhb.com/images/StreamRes\\_VHB.pdf](http://www.vhb.com/images/StreamRes_VHB.pdf).

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## PUBLICATIONS

### Books, Reports and Videos

***Beyond Dams: Options and Alternatives***, the title of a newly-released report by American Rivers, provides stakeholders and decision-makers with an overview of low-impact and non-structural alternatives to dams. It is designed as a reference for anyone interested in exploring options for replacing a function served by an existing or proposed dam. The report focuses on main functions that dams can serve and alternative means of fulfilling those uses: water diversion and supply, flood management, and energy. For more details, as well as a downloadable copy of *Beyond Dams*, go on-line to <http://www.amrivers.org/beyonddams.html>. Also at the American Rivers website is a report entitled *Ecological River Design: Restoring Rivers, Connecting Communities*, by Betsy Otto, Kathleen McCormick and Michael Leccesse. The web page providing a downloadable version of this report (<http://www.amrivers.org/ecologicaldesign.html>) also includes links to over a dozen successful examples of urban river revitalization projects throughout the country.

The **Trust for Public Land** and the **American Water Works Association** recently published a new report highlighting the value of **land conservation for water protection**. ***Protecting the Source*** explains why watershed conservation is one of the best ways to protect water quality and details on-the-ground strategies for watershed conservation. Authored by Caryn Ernst, the 56-page report explores the scientific, economic, and public health rationales for using land conservation for drinking water protection and presents best practices for successful implementation locally. This report is intended for local governments, water suppliers and agencies, and community drinking water advocates. More details about the report, ordering info for a hard copy (\$15), as well as a free download, is available at [http://www.tpl.org/tier3\\_cd.cfm?content\\_item\\_id=15036&folder\\_id=186](http://www.tpl.org/tier3_cd.cfm?content_item_id=15036&folder_id=186) (see related AWWA article at [http://www.slcgov.com/utilities/NewsEvents/pdf/Op0504\\_1.pdf](http://www.slcgov.com/utilities/NewsEvents/pdf/Op0504_1.pdf)). Additional information on watershed conservation - including case studies, tools, and resources - can be found at [http://www.tpl.org/tier2\\_pa.cfm?folder\\_id=1885](http://www.tpl.org/tier2_pa.cfm?folder_id=1885).



On a similar note, the EPA has released ***Protecting Water Resources with Smart Growth***, a 120-page report to assist state and local governments and water quality professionals in achieving smart growth and water quality goals. Smart growth strategies avoid loss of woodlands, meadowlands, and wetlands and reduce runoff. To receive a free copy of the report, contact EPA by email at [ncepimal@one.net](mailto:ncepimal@one.net), or by telephone at (800) 490-9198 and request EPA publication 231-R-04-002. For a PDF copy of the report and more information go to <http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth>. EPA has also produced ***Getting in Step: A Guide for Conducting Watershed Outreach Campaigns*** (Publication # EPA 841-B-03-002), and ***Getting in Step: A Video Guide for Conducting Watershed Outreach Campaigns*** (Publication # EPA 841-V-03-001). These two companion guides offer advice on how to effectively raise citizen awareness of nonpoint source pollution and to motivate individual behavior change to develop more water-friendly habits and practices that will lead to cleaner waters for your community and our nation. The 100-page book, plus appendices, expands upon a 1998 publication by the Council of State Governments and includes new information from the growing field of community-based social marketing. The 35-minute video reinforces the six-step process outlined in the book, and showcases four successful outreach programs from around the United States. For a free copy of this guide and its companion video, please contact the National Service Center for Environmental Publications [(800) 490-9198, <http://www.epa.gov/ncepihom>]. The book is also available as a .pdf download at <http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/outreach/documents>.

The wisdom of fluoridating drinking water is strongly brought into question in a new book by Christopher Bryson entitled ***The Fluoride Deception***. One review of the book states that “Investigative reporter Bryson revisits the decades-long controversy, drawing on mountains of scientific studies, some unearthed from secret archives of government and corporate laboratories, to question the effects of fluoride and the motives of its leading advocates. Bryson marshals an impressive amount of research to demonstrate fluoride's harmfulness, the ties between leading fluoride researchers and the corporations who funded and benefited from their research, and what he says is the duplicity with which fluoridation was sold to the people. The result is a compelling challenge to the reigning dental orthodoxy, which should provoke renewed scientific scrutiny and public debate. With the narrative punch of Jonathan Harr's *A Civil Action* and the commitment to environmental truth-telling of Erin Brockovich, *The Fluoride Deception* documents a powerful connection between big corporations, the US military and the historic reassurances of fluoride safety provided by the nation's public health establishment.”

“*The Fluoride Deception* reads like a thriller, but one supported by 200 pages of source notes, years of investigative reporting, scores of scientist interviews, and archival research in places such as the newly opened files of the Manhattan Project and the Atomic Energy Commission. The book is nothing less than an exhumation of one of the great secret narratives of the industrial era; how a grim workplace poison and the most damaging environmental pollutant of the cold war was added to our drinking water and toothpaste.” ***The Fluoride Deception*** (Seven Stories Press, \$24.95 (272p) ISBN 1583225269) is reviewed and can be ordered on-



*Joan Kimball*, Director

*Eileen Goldberg*, Program Administrator  
Mass.

*Russ Cohen*, Rivers Advocate

*Rachel Calabro*, Adopt-A-Stream Coordinator

*Cindy Delpapa*, Urban Rivers Coordinator

*Karen Pelto*, River Restore Coordinator

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*Carrie Banks*, Stream Team Organizer Western

*Brian Graber*, River Restore Staff Scientist

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*Amy Singler*, Stream Team Organizer

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